

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 13 are now pending in the application. Claim 13 has been added as a new claim. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Makoto et al. (Japanese Pat. No. 6-96971) in view of Toshio (Japanese Pat. No. 4-338616). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-4 and 6-12, thus rendering this rejection moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that Claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant(s) have amended Claim 5 to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Claim 5 should now be in condition for allowance. Claim 13 has been added as a new claim based upon the newly amended claim 5 and should also be in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Oct 13, 2004

By: Greg Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs
Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GAS/kk